

Amendment to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method for obtaining metadata for a media content file storing media content, said media content file being stored on a computer storage medium, said method comprising:

populating a request data structure, said request data structure comprising a request type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and ~~one or more~~ a plurality of metadata elements stored with the media content file, wherein the request type identifier comprises MDQ-CD or MDQ-DVD;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the populated request data structure, wherein, in response to receiving the populated request data structure, the metadata provider searches for the requested metadata in a database based on the received plurality of metadata elements and identifies the relevant metadata from the search results; and

receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining the type for the computer storage medium, the request identifier, and ~~return identified relevant~~ metadata corresponding to the requested metadata, wherein the return type identifier comprises MDR-CD or MDR-DVD.

Claim 2 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the return metadata comprises metadata determined by the metadata provider to be associated with the media content file.

Claim 3-4 (canceled).

Claim 5 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the type relates to at least one of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the computer storage medium comprises one or more of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata provider comprises a computer.

Claim 8 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the return data structure comprises a delay time interval, and further comprising postponing additional requests for metadata until after the delay time interval has elapsed.

Claim 9 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising:
 associating the return metadata or a portion thereof with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and
 storing the namespace identifiers and associated metadata with the media content file.

Claim 10 (original): The method of claim 9, wherein the return metadata comprises a globally unique identifier.

Claim 11 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising classifying the media content with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMPPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 12 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising associated the return metadata or a portion thereof with a namespace identifier representing a box set identifier.

Claim 13 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata elements in the request data structure comprise values associated with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID, WMPPrimaryClassID, and WMSecondaryClassID, wherein the values and namespace identifiers are stored in the media content file.

Claim 14 (original): The method of claim 13, wherein requesting the metadata comprises requesting the metadata from at least one of the following: a local cache, a network server, and a client computer.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the media content file comprises one of a plurality of songs in an album, wherein requesting the metadata comprises requesting metadata for the song included in the media content file, and wherein the return metadata comprises metadata for the plurality of songs in the album at least one of the plurality of songs not included in the media content file.

Claim 16 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the return metadata in a cache.

Claim 17 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising storing the return metadata with the media content file.

Claim 18 (original): The method of claim 1, further comprising requesting additional metadata from the metadata provider using a portion of the return metadata.

Claim 19 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein requesting the metadata comprises formulating a network address with one or more query string parameters, said formulated network address representing the request data structure.

Claim 20 (original): The method of claim 1, wherein the network address comprises a uniform resource locator.

Claim 21 (currently amended): The method of claim 1, wherein the metadata provider performs:
~~receiving the request data structure from a computing device;~~
~~searching for the requested metadata in a database based on the received metadata~~
~~elements;~~

ranking the results of said searching;
identifying the relevant metadata from the search results and correlating relevant metadata from the search results to compute an accuracy rating the ranked results with a table storing metadata to identify the requested metadata;
populating the return data structure with the relevant identified-metadata and the accuracy rating; and
sending the populated return data structure to the computing device wherein the computing device determines how to apply the metadata of the returned data structure based on the accuracy rating.

Claim 22 (previously presented): One or more computer storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 1.

Claim 23 (currently amended): A method comprising:

determining an identifier value;
associating the determined identifier value with media content; and
assigning the determined identifier value to one or more of the following fields: WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID, WMPrimaryClassID, and WMSecondaryClassID, wherein the WMPrimaryClassID field stores a primary identifier value and the WMSecondaryClassID field stores a secondary identifier value, and wherein said primary identifier value and said secondary identifier value are assigned from a pre-defined pool of identifier values controlled by an authorized party to prevent confusion and pollution of a namespace, said primary identifier value and said secondary identifier value classifying the media content; and
storing the identifier value and assigned fields with the media content.

Claim 24 (original): The method of claim 23, wherein the identifier value comprises a globally unique identifier.

Claim 25 (original): The method of claim 23, wherein the identifier value comprises a class or type for the media content.

Claim 26 (original): The method of claim 23, wherein determining the identifier value comprises generating the identifier value.

Claim 27 (original): The method of claim 23, wherein associating the determined identifier value comprises populating a reference table.

Claim 28 (previously presented): One or more computer storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 23.

Claim 29 (currently amended): One or more computer storage media having computer-executable components for obtaining metadata for a media content file storing media content, said media content file being stored on a computer storage medium, said components comprising:

a query component for populating a request data structure, said request data structure comprising a request type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and ~~one or more~~ plurality of metadata elements stored with the media content file, wherein the request type identifier comprises MDQ-CD or MDQ-DVD, said query component further requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the populated request data structure, wherein, in response to receiving the populated request data structure, the metadata provider searches for the requested metadata in a database based on the received plurality of metadata elements and identifies the relevant metadata from the search results; and

an interface component for receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider in response to the request sent by the query component, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining the type for the computer storage medium, the request identifier, and identified relevant ~~return~~ metadata corresponding to the requested metadata, wherein the return type identifier comprises MDR-CD or MDR-DVD.

Claim 30 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 29, wherein the return metadata comprises metadata determined by the metadata provider to be associated with the media content file.

Claim 31-32 (canceled).

Claim 33 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 29, further comprising an authoring component for:

- associating the return metadata or a portion thereof with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and
- storing the namespace identifiers and associated metadata with the media content file.

Claim 34 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 33, wherein the authoring component further classifies the media content using other namespace identifiers including at least one of WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 35 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 33, wherein the authoring component further comprises:

- determining an identifier value;
- associating the determined identifier value with media content; and
- assigning the determined identifier value to one or more of the following namespace identifiers: WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and
- storing the identifier value and assigned namespace identifiers with the media content.

Claim 36 (previously presented): The computer storage media of claim 29, wherein the metadata elements in the request data structure comprise values associated with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID, WMPrimaryClassID, and WMSecondaryClassID, wherein the values and namespace identifiers are stored in the media content file.

Claim 37 (currently amended): A media player comprising computer-executable instructions for obtaining metadata for a media content file, said media content file being stored on a computer storage medium, said instructions comprising:

- populating a request data structure, said request data structure comprising a request type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and a plurality of

~~one or more~~ metadata elements stored with the media content file, wherein the request type identifier comprises MDQ-CD or MDQ-DVD;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the populated request data structure, wherein, in response to receiving the populated request data structure, the metadata provider searches for the requested metadata in a database based on the received plurality of metadata elements, identifies the relevant metadata from the search results, and correlates relevant metadata from the search results to compute an accuracy rating based on the received plurality of metadata elements; and

receiving a return data structure including the accuracy rating from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining the type for the computer storage medium, the request identifier, and the identified relevant return metadata corresponding to the requested metadata, wherein the return type identifier comprises MDR-CD or MDR-DVD and wherein the computing device determines whether or not to overwrite metadata for the media content file with the identified relevant metadata of the returned data structure based on the accuracy rating.

Claim 38 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise classifying the media content file based on the return metadata.

Claim 39 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the return data structure comprises a delay time interval, and wherein the instructions further comprise postponing additional requests for metadata until after the delay time interval has elapsed.

Claim 40 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise:
associating the return metadata or a portion thereof with namespace identifiers including at least one of WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID; and
storing the namespace identifiers and associated metadata with the media content file.

Claim 41 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise classifying the media content using other namespace identifiers including at least one of the following: WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 42 (original): The media player of claim 37, wherein the instructions further comprise:

- determining an identifier value;
- associating the determined identifier value with media content; and
- assigning the determined identifier value to one or more of the following namespace identifiers: WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID; and
- storing the identifier value and assigned fields with the media content.

Claim 43 (currently amended): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure representing a request for metadata, said data structure for transmission by a first computing device to a second computing device to request metadata for media content, said data structure comprising:

- a request type identifier defining a type for a destination computer storage medium storing the media content, said media content being one song from a plurality of songs associated with an album, wherein the request type identifier comprises MDQ-CD or MDQ-DVD;

- a request identifier; and

- one or more metadata elements stored with the media content, wherein, in response to the receipt of the data structure, the second computing device returns metadata for the plurality of songs associated with the album.

Claim 44 (canceled).

Claim 45 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 43, wherein the type relates to at least one of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 43, wherein the destination computer storage medium comprises one or more of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 47 (currently amended): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure sent from a first computing device to a second computing device in response to a request for metadata sent by the second computing device, said data structure comprising:

a return type identifier defining a type for a destination computer storage medium storing the media content, said media content being one song from a plurality of songs associated with an album, wherein the request type identifier comprises MDR-CD or MDR-DVD;

a request identifier; and

return metadata for the plurality of songs associated with the album corresponding to the requested metadata.

Claim 48 (canceled).

Claim 49 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 47, further comprising a delay interval specifying a time period for postponing additional requests for metadata by the second computing device.

Claim 50 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 47, wherein the type relates to at least one of the following: a compact disc, a digital versatile disc, and flash memory.

Claim 51 (currently amended): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure representing a namespace for identifying media content, said data structure comprising:

a first field storing a content identifier value, said first field having a label of WMContentID, said content identifier value representing a performance of a particular work as it relates to a specific collection, said performance being embodied in the media content;

a second field storing a collection identifier value, said second field having a label of WMCollectionID, said collection identifier value representing a single physical medium of the media content; and

a third field storing a group identifier value, said third field having a label of WMCollectionGroupID, said group identifier value representing a plurality physical medium of the media content.

Claim 52 (original): The computer storage medium of claim 51, wherein said first, second, and third fields represent different levels of granularity for identifying the media content.

Claim 53 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 51, wherein the content identifier value, the collection identifier value, and the group identifier value each comprise a globally unique identifier.

Claim 54 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 51, wherein the third field represents a box set identifier.

Claim 55 (currently amended): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a data structure representing a namespace for classifying media content, said data structure comprising:

a first field storing a primary identifier value, said first field having a label of WMPPrimaryClassID; and
a second field storing a secondary identifier value, said second field having a label of WMSecondaryClassID, wherein the primary identifier value and the secondary identifier value are assigned from a pre-defined pool of identifier values controlled by an authorized party to prevent confusion and pollution of a namespace and wherein the primary identifier value and the secondary identifier value classify the media content.

Claim 56 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 55, wherein said first and second fields represent different levels of granularity for classifying the media content.

Claim 57 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 55, wherein the primary identifier value and the secondary identifier value each comprise at least one of the following: audio and video.

Claim 58 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 55, wherein the primary identifier value and the secondary identifier value each comprise a globally unique identifier.

Claim 59 (currently amended): A computer storage medium having stored thereon a computer-readable file, said computer-readable file storing:

media content;

~~one~~ two or more of the following identifiers characterizing the media content:

WMContentID, WMCollectionID, WMCollectionGroupID, WMPrimaryClassID, and WMSecondaryClassID; and

an identifier value associated with each of the ~~one~~ two or more identifiers, wherein the two or more identifiers are sent to a metadata provider, said metadata provider searching for the requested metadata in a database based on the received two or more identifiers and identifying the relevant metadata from the search results, said metadata provider returning the relevant metadata from the search results.

Claim 60 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 59, wherein the identifier value for WMContentID, WMCollectionID, and WMCollectionGroupID comprises a globally unique identifier.

Claim 61 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 59, wherein the identifier value for WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID comprises one of the following: audio and video.

Claim 62 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 59, wherein the following identifiers represent increasing levels of granularity for classifying the media content: WMCollectionGroupID, WMCollectionID, and WMContentID.

Claim 63 (previously presented): The computer storage medium of claim 59, wherein the following identifiers represent increasing levels of granularity for identifying the media content: WMPrimaryClassID and WMSecondaryClassID.

Claim 64 (currently amended): A method for obtaining metadata for media content, said media content being stored on a computer storage medium, said method comprising:

formulating a network address with a query string parameter, said query string parameter comprising an identifier and a value associated therewith, said identifier or a portion thereof comprising the text string WMID, said associated value corresponding to the media content, wherein the media content file comprises one of a plurality of songs in an album;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the formulated network address; and

receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and return metadata corresponding to the metadata for the plurality of songs in the album.

Claim 65 (original): The method of claim 64, wherein the formulated network address comprises a uniform resource locator.

Claim 66 (canceled).

Claim 67 (original): The method of claim 64, further comprising another query string parameter, said query string parameter comprising another identifier and another value associated therewith, said other identifier comprising one or more of the following: VERSION, LOCALE, and REQUESTID.

Claim 68 (currently amended): A method for obtaining metadata for media content, said media content being stored on a computer storage medium, said method comprising:

formulating a network address with a query string parameter, said query string parameter comprising an identifier and a value associated therewith, said identifier or a portion thereof comprising the text string CD, said associated value corresponding to the media content and being calculated from the computer storage medium storing the content media;

requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the formulated network address; and
receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and return metadata corresponding to the requested metadata.

Claim 69 (original): The method of claim 68, wherein the formulated network address comprises a uniform resource locator.

Claim 70 (previously presented): The method of claim 68, further comprising:
requesting metadata for the media content file from a metadata provider via the formulated network address; and
receiving a return data structure from the metadata provider, said return data structure storing a return type identifier defining a type for the computer storage medium, a request identifier, and return metadata corresponding to the requested metadata.

Claim 71 (original): The method of claim 68, further comprising another query string parameter, said query string parameter comprising another identifier and another value associated therewith, said other identifier comprising one or more of the following: VERSION, LOCALE, and REQUESTID.

Claim 72 (currently amended): A method for processing media content, said method comprising:
receiving a request for metadata from a media player, said metadata being associated with media content, said request comprising one or more metadata elements;
searching for the requested metadata in a database based on the received metadata elements;
ranking the results of said searching; and
correlating the ranked results with a table storing metadata to identify the requested metadata from the table based on the ranked results to compute an accuracy rating; and
sending metadata and the accuracy rating to the media player, wherein the media player determines how to apply the metadata based on the accuracy rating.

Claim 73 (original): The method of claim 72, wherein searching for the requested metadata comprises searching the database based on the metadata elements collectively.

Claim 74 (original): The method of claim 72, wherein ranking the results comprises assigning a weighting to each of the results based on the searching method and received metadata elements.

Claim 75 (previously presented): One or more computer storage media having computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 72.